**Romeo & Juliet Webquest English9**

by Michael Barbour

**About Shakespeare**  
Click on [this link](http://shakespeare.palomar.edu/timeline/timeline.htm) and answer the following questions (1-7).

1. Click on the link to Birth 1564 & Early Years. William Shakespeare was born in what year?

* In1564 was when he was born.

1. What date do we recognize as his birthday?

* The day he was baptized, on April 23.

1. What was important about Stratford-upon-Avon in the 16th century?

* William Shakespeare was born here.

1. Click on the link for 1594 and find the acting companies Shakespeare was associated with in the early days. Name one.

* Queen's Men, Pembroke's Men and Lord Strange's Men were the acting companies.

1. Click on 1599 The Great Globe. What is the probable year that Romeo and Juliet was written?

* It was probably in 1595.

1. Scroll down to the section "Construction of the Globe," and answer these questions:
   1. Where did the timbers to build the Globe come from?

* They were going to pull down the old theatre and use the wood in it.
  1. Who was the carpenter who built the Globe?
* The carpenter who built the globe is allen.
  1. What was Shakespeare's share as "householder?"
* He would get 200-250 per year.

1. What day and year did Shakespeare die? Why is this an *interesting* date? How old was Shakespeare when he died?

* He died in the year of 1616 , it was the day he was born.

**About Marriage**  
Click on [this link](http://elizabethan.org/compendium/9.html) and answer the next questions (8-10).

1. Romeo & Juliet marry secretly, but because she is trying to escape the arranged marriage to Paris. Read this site about marriage in Elizabethan England and answer these questions.
   1. What does betrothal mean?

* The two people join hands and give rings to each other.
  1. Name three marriage and betrothal customs found on this page.
* Exchange of tokens ,consent, and consummation.

1. Click on the link for "more wedding customs."
   1. What color should the bride's dress be?

* the dress should be white.
  1. How is the intention to marry announced? What happens if it is not announced previous to the event?
* It is announced to the family then friends, If it is not told they can’t get married.
  1. Describe the wedding procession.
* The bridesmaids walk up the idle then the bride and then they get married.
  1. What is a dowry?
* A dowry is the things that you get from your wife when you get married.

1. Explain how important is a wedding ring to the Elizabethans?

* If there is no ring there is no wedding.

**About Food**  
Click on [this link](http://elizabethan.org/compendium/46.html) and continue (11-13).

1. How many meals do people generally eat each day?

* They eat about 2 meals a day.

1. Click [here](http://elizabethan.org/compendium/38.html). Why would people in Shakespeare's day not know what a chocolate chip cookie is?

* Chocolate is not used in cooking it is used in medicinal purposes.

1. Lord Capulet throws a huge party, feast and all. Imagine you are in charge of that menu. Luckily for you, today you only have to plan a menu for a small dinner party. Be sure to use only [food available in Europe](http://elizabethan.org/compendium/47.html) during this time. Choose at least two vegetables, two meats, and two fruits or nuts.

* We will have smoked veal and salmon with a parsley and apricot, mustard glaze. With a side of spinach.

PART 2  
**About Language**  
Click on [this link](http://elizabethan.org/compendium/20.html) and continue (14-16).

1. A famous line from Romeo and Juliet is when Juliet says, "Romeo, Romeo, wherefore art thou Romeo?" What does "wherefore" mean?

* The word wherefore means why and where.

1. What does "stay" mean?

* Stay means to wait and tell someone to wait for you.

1. [Click here](http://elizabethan.org/compendium/29.html) to get the information you need to translate this conversation. Put your translation in column two. Keep the phrases just about the same, but use Elizabethan words where you can. So, in other words, you rewrite the entire phrase but replace as many words as you can using Elizabethan English.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Person A** | Hello. (A sneezes) Excuse me. || || | Good day. Forgive me |
| **Person B** | Gesundheit! | God Save You! |
| **A** | Thank you. | Gramercy |
| **B** | Say, do you know where the closest bathroom is? | Say, do you know where the closest Ajax is. |
| **A** | Certainly. It's down the street in the Kings Tavern. | Certes. It’s down the street in the kings tavern |
| **B** | Thanks. Goodbye. | I thank thee, Goodbye |

**About Theatre in Shakespeare's Time**  
"[Actors, Acting, & Audience](http://www.uni-koeln.de/phil-fak/englisch/shakespeare/)" is the link for the next questions (16-19).

1. How many women actors did the company usually feature?

* There was no woman actress in the play.

1. Was Shakespeare an actor? What was the term used to refer to actors?

* The actors were referring as players, and Shakespeare was not an actor.

1. How were the seating arrangements for the audience? How did one get a good seat?

* There were close packed seats on a first come first serve.

1. What would the audience do if they did not like a performance?

* They would through things at the actors.

**Shakespearean Insults**

1. Go to the [Shakespearean Insult Kit](http://www.mit.edu:8001/people/dryfoo/Funny-pages/shakespeare-insult-kit.html) and create your own insult. How you do it is to start with the word "Thou." Next, take a phrase/word from the first column to begin your insult, continue by adding something from the second column, and finish it up royally with something from the third column. Type your own personal Shakespearean insult in the table below. [Thou + choice from column 1 + choice from column 2 + choice from column 3 = your custom made insult].

* Thou unmuzzled fat-kidneyed coxcomb